

# Agenda for Meeting of Classis Georgetown

May 20, 2021

Registration – 4:00 PM; Meeting Time - 4:15 PM

Location: Post Family Farm - 5081 Bauer Road, Hudsonville, MI 49426

Rev. Nate Meldrim, President

Rev. Matthew Slack, Vice President

## 1) Welcome and Opening Worship

- a) Welcome to delegates and guests
- b) Opening Worship

## 2) Classis Work

- a) Reports from Classis leaders:
  - i) Stated Clerk: Ms. Glenda Tebben
  - ii) Treasurer: Mr. Mel VanderBie
  - iii) Vision Team: Mr. Jim Roskam
  - iv) Student Fund Committee: Rev. Jeffery Scripps
  - v) Regional Pastors: Rev. Marc Nelesen
    - i. Article 17 guidelines
  - vi) Credentials Committee

- b) Classis Voting for a *regional* Denominational Board position at Calvin Theological Seminary

**Rev. Arthur J. Van Wolde** is the single nominee for this position. He serves as senior pastor of Haven CRC in Zeeland, Michigan. He has served there since 2012 and has previously served churches in Dearborn, Michigan; Bunde, Minnesota; and Pella, Iowa. He received training from Kuyper College and Calvin Theological Seminary. He has served as a member of the board of trustees of Kuyper College, the launch team for New Life Prison Congregation (Newton, Iowa), and the classis interim committee of Classis Central Plans. He is currently serving on the classis interim team for Classis Zeeland.

- c) Request from Fairway CRC:

The Council of Fairway CRC, with the endorsement of the CRC Candidacy Committee, seeks approval that Mr. Jeremy Rhodes be allowed to enter the CRC ministry through Church Order Article 8 rather than through the Article 6 candidacy process. The learning plan known as the MEPMC, involving accredited work at Calvin Theological Seminary, would still be required.

CRCNA Church Order Article 8-c:

*Ministers ordained outside of the CRCNA who desire to become ministers in the Christian Reformed Church shall be required to complete a learning plan endorsed by the Candidacy Committee*

**Motion:** That Classis Georgetown approve an adjustment to the ordination affiliation process of Jeremy Rhodes, making use of Church Order Article 8 rather than the candidacy route of Church Order Article 6.

**Grounds:**

1. As the candidacy committee received more information about Jeremy's training and experience in ministry, they suggested that this change would be appropriate.
2. Jeremy would still have an accredited learning plan in the matters that are required for a thorough orientation to CRCNA ministry.
3. The step of Commissioned Pastor examination would still serve as a helpful tool for the affiliation process and for getting acquainted with Jeremy.

**3) Classical Examination of Mr. Jeremy Rhodes**

- a) Introduction of Mr. Jeremy Rhodes and prayer for guidance of the Holy Spirit: **Mr. John Wilks, Fairway CRC**
- b) Report from sermon evaluators regarding sermon preached on an assigned text: **Rev. Gerry Koning and Rev. John DeVries**
- c) Classis will conduct the examination of Jeremy Rhodes for the position of Commissioned Pastor: **Rev. Ed Tamminga**
- d) Classis Delegates will discuss and vote on the acceptance of Jeremy Rhodes for the position of Commissioned Pastor.
- e) Prayer for Jeremy Rhodes will be offered by **Rev. Gerry Koning**, followed by congratulations and celebration.

**4) Dinner Fellowship**

**5) Classis Panel featuring Ministry Representatives**

It is important for our churches to be aware of the work our ministry representatives do on our behalf. Five representatives will share with delegates and guests what their role in our classis is. Following the time of sharing, we will invite questions/comments from our delegates and guests.

The panel will include:

- Juliana Clink – Safe Church Team
- Lynrae Frens – World Renew
- Laura Koning – Regional Disability Advocate
- Amy Schenkel – Resonate Regional Leader
- Fig VanderMolen – Youth Ministry Champion

## **6) Closing**